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BOROUGH OF
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1946



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BOROUGH OF ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE

Annual Report
of the Medical Officer
of Health

For the Year 1946

Borough of Ashton-under-Lyne

1946

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: Alderman Flowers, J.P.

Deputy-Chairman: Alderman Sheard, J.P.

The Mayor, Aldermen Arnold and Massey, J.P., Councillors Gantley, Hannan, Ibbotson, MacCormack, Mamourian, J.P., and Oldham.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE

Chairman: Councillor Farley.

Deputy-Chairman: Councillor Mrs. Mamourian, J.P.

The Mayor, Aldermen Arnold and Flowers, J.P., Councillors Hall, Hannan, MacCormack, Oldham and Sidebottom.

TOWN HALL CHAMBERS,
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

**TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.**

MR. MAYOR, MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my report on the health of the Borough for the year 1946.

A brief résumé of the vital statistics gives encouraging reading in so far as they are barometers of the communal health. A rapidly rising birth-rate, a slightly falling death-rate, a diminishing death-rate from Tuberculosis and Cancer, coupled with a substantial fall in the maternal mortality rate, are all on the credit side, whilst the infantile mortality rate alone has not shown a diminution, though it has decreased in comparison with the previous five-year period. Furthermore, there have been no epidemics during the year, and the incidence of Diphtheria has been less than half what it was in 1945.

The work of the Health Visitors has been carried out during the year, whilst attendances at the various Welfare Centres show no diminution.

A post-war feature has appeared under the ægis of the Maternity and Child Welfare Department which was "born of necessity" out of the employment of women in war work, namely, Day Nurseries.

It is hoped that the conditions which brought these into existence will soon pass away and render their continuance unnecessary.

Protection against Diphtheria, whilst making slow progress at our clinics, might be hastened were more carried out by their private doctors.

The total percentage of the child population aged 0—15 years is 58 per cent.

It need hardly be mentioned in this place that the most urgent health measure in the town is the provision of more houses and the eradication of much slum property.

The next most urgent environmental problem is the eradication of the smoke menace in this area.

Commending this report to your notice,

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

ALAN S. SIMPSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Staff of the Health Department

MEDICAL.

Alan S. Simpson, M.B., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer, Maternity and Child Welfare Officer.

Mary Evans, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Assistant Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.

SANITARY INSPECTORS.

C. Sykes Handforth, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I., M.Inst.P.C., Chief Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, etc.

Herbert Hunter, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I., Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Meats and Other Foods, etc.

C. F. Spencer, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I., Additional Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Meats and Other Foods, etc.

HEALTH VISITORS.

Nurse Chamberlain, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. (Senior Nurse).

„ Weir, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

„ Cleary, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

„ Schofield, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. (Resigned March, 1946).

„ Wrigley, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

„ Edwards, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

„ Malone, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

CLERKS.

C. Sharples, A. Hartley (Resigned November, 1946),

E. McCabe, F. Gartside, B. Wood.

Ashton-under-Lyne Borough:

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS, 1946

	Per 1,000 of estimated Population		Maternal Mortality Rate		Rate of Deaths under one year per 1,000 Live Births
	Male.	Female.	Per 1,000 Live Births	Per 1,000 Live Births	
Population—					
For Birth-rate	46,480	Live Birth-rate	Crude Death-rate	Death-rate from Cancer	47
For Death-rate	—	—	—	—	41
Mean of 5 years, 1941-45	16.4	14.6	0.55	2.43	46
Year 1945	16.2	15.1	0.65	1.38	...
1946	19.0	14.1	0.47	1.13	...
Increase or decrease in 1946 on 5 years' average, 1941-45	+2.6	0.5	0.08	0.09	-1
Previous year	+2.8	1.0	0.18	-0.32	+5
1946 adjusted Death-rate (comparability factor) = per 1,000.					
Live Births:	Total	Male.	Female.		
Legitimate	818	406	412		
Illegitimate	66	29	37		
Total	884	435	449	Birth-rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1946	19.0
Still Births	30	13	17	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	32.0
Deaths	657	311	346	Death-rate per 1,000 estimated population	14.1
Deaths from puerperal causes—				Death-rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	1.09
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	...	...	1	Nil.	1.09
Other maternal causes	...	...	...	...
Total	...	...	1		
Death-rate of Infants under one year of age—					
All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	46	Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	89
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	45	Measles (all ages)	1
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	60	Whooping Cough (all ages)	—
	...	...		Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	2

Causes of Death during the Year 1946.

	M.	F.	Total
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0	1	1
Scarlet Fever	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	15	7	22
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	0	2	2
Syphilitic Disease	2	2	4
Influenza	6	5	11
Measles	0	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ...	1	0	1
Acute Infectious Encephalitis	0	0	0
M. Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus (Males only)	5	0	5
F. Cancer of Uterus	0	12	12
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	8	5	13
Cancer of Breast	0	13	13
Cancer of all other sites (with 3 Sub. groups)	32	14	46
Diabetes	1	1	2
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	23	56	79
Heart Disease (with 4 Sub. groups)	105	109	214
Other Diseases of the Circulatory System ...	7	12	19
Bronchitis	20	26	46
Pneumonia	15	15	30
Other Respiratory Diseases	5	4	9
Ulceration of the Stomach or Duodenum ...	1	1	2
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1	1	2
Appendicitis...	0	3	3
Other Digestive Diseases (with 4 Sub. groups)	12	7	19
Nephritis	6	8	14
Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis (with 2 Sub. groups)	0	1	1
Other Maternal Causes (with 2 Sub. groups)	0	0	0
Premature Birth	8	5	13
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease (with 2 Sub. groups)	7	8	15
Suicide	0	1	1
Road Traffic Accidents	4	1	5
Other Violent Causes	8	6	14
All Other Causes (with 14 Sub. groups) ...	19	19	38
	311	346	657

Ashton-under-Lyne Public Health AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

I have pleasure in submitting to you my first Annual Report of the working of the Ambulance Department for the period 1st April, 1946 (when the department was taken over by the Health Committee) to the 31st December, 1946.

3,680 calls were received and responded to, as against 3,275 in the corresponding nine months of 1945, an increase of 405 calls. The increase in the number of calls received from the area which this Service covers, is actually greater than the 405 shown above, as it will be seen on examination of the figures below that in 1945, 40 calls were received from the adjacent Ambulance Services of Stalybridge, Hyde and Mossley, whereas in 1946 only one request for assistance was received from Hyde; in addition 95 Police duty calls are shown for 1945 and none for 1946. The 3,680 calls received are classified as follows:—

Nature of Case.	1946.	1945.	Local Authority.	1946.	1945.
Private Removals	3,231...	2,761	Ashton Borough ...	1,846...	1,863
Road Accidents	79...	56	Droylsden U.D.C.	703...	622
Works Accidents	87...	69	Audenshaw U.D.C. .	813...	521
Domestic Accidents ...	120...	135	Limhurst R.D.C. ...	259...	187
Medical Emergencies ...	126...	79	Mr. Watts C. Hosp'i	30...	64
Bodies to Mortuary ...	36...	40	Lanes. P.A.C.	23...	16
Stalyb'dge Amb. Servicee ..	— ...	37	L.C.C. T.B. Dispens'y	6...	2
Mossley Amb. Servicee ..	— ...	2			
Hyde Amb. Servicee	1...	1			
Police Duty Calls	— ...	95			
	3,680...	3,275		3,680...	3,275

It will be noticed from the figures above that there is a slight decrease in the number of calls received from within the Borough, whereas Droylsden shows an increase of 81, Audenshaw 292 and Waterloo 72. No births occurred in an ambulance, but one patient died in an ambulance in the month of April, 1946.

AMBULANCES

At the time of writing this report, five ambulances are in use—two Humbers and three Austins. The Humbers were first registered in May, 1935, and two of the Austins in May, 1938, the two Austins being in fair condition. The fifth ambulance now in

use is a new Austin, the body being built on a 2-ton chassis. A second Austin is at present being built by the same firm, Messrs. H. Lomas, Ltd., of Manchester, and delivery of this vehicle is expected before the end of March, 1947.

The two Humber Ambulances are now nearing the end of their use as ambulances, being very unreliable, and I would recommend that when the second new ambulance has been delivered these should be disposed of.

MILEAGE

The total mileage covered during the nine months under review was 25,802 as against 21,283 in the corresponding period of 1945, an increase of 4,519.

The respective mileage for each vehicle is as follows:—

Humber	A.T.B.47	...	...	...	...	...	7,564
Humber	A.T.B.48	...	...	...	...	...	12,299
Austin	D.T.B.219	...	...	...	...	...	2,980
Austin	D.T.B.220	...	...	...	...	...	1,755
Austin	G.T.F.435	...	...	...	...	...	1,204

The total mileage for each vehicle since first registered:—

Humber	A.T.B.47	...	...	...	...	...	72,134
Humber	A.T.B.48	...	...	...	...	...	69,254
Austin	D.T.B.219	...	...	...	...	...	35,902
Austin	D.T.B.220	...	...	...	...	...	69,951
Austin	G.T.F.435	...	...	...	...	...	1,385

PETROL AND OIL

2,846 gallons of petrol were consumed for an average of 9.06 miles per gallon.

50 gallons of oil were consumed for an average of 516 miles per gallon.

GARAGE AND HEADQUARTERS

The ambulances are garaged in the Trolley Bus Bay at the Passenger Transport Depot, Mossley Road. The garage accommodation and the facilities, together with the office headquarters and their close proximity to the local Hospitals, make this an ideal position for an Ambulance Station.

I would like to thank Mr. Crossley, the General Manager, and his Staff for the valuable assistance given to this department, as all the repair work requiring expert mechanics has been done by his repair staff, especially in such difficult times when, due to the vehicles being obsolete models, his staff have had to make spare parts, which have been unobtainable from the manufacturers.

PERSONNEL

The department is staffed by one Superintendent and 14 Driver Attendants—11 males and 3 females. One female, Miss J. Taylor, resigned during the period and her place was filled by a male.

Eleven of the staff have been fitted out with a very neat uniform, together with a greatcoat and raincoat, and measurements have been taken for the remaining members of the staff, and delivery is expected within the next month or so.

Four shifts are worked over the period of 24 hours: 6 a.m. to 2 p.m., 2 p.m. to 10 p.m., 6 p.m. to 2 a.m., 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.; also a day shift from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., which is the peak period.

The number of drivers on duty during the various periods of the 24 hours—6 a.m. one day to 6 a.m. the next day—is as follows:—

6 a.m. to	9 a.m. ...	3 Drivers	(2 men and 1 woman)
9 a.m. to	6 p.m. ...	6 ..	(4 men and 2 women)
6 p.m. to	10 p.m. ...	4 ..	(3 men and 1 woman)
10 p.m. to	2 a.m. ...	3 ..	(3 men)
2 a.m. to	6 a.m. ...	2 ..	(2 men)

SICKNESS

During the nine months under review, 77 working days have been lost by members of the staff through sickness, for which wages were paid for 42 days at full pay and 21 days at half-pay. No wages were paid for the remaining 14 days. Miss Stelfox has been absent for 66 of the 77 days, and at the time of writing this report she is still on the sick list on half-pay.

The amount of sickness compares very unfavourably with the corresponding period of 1945, as during that time not one day was lost by any member of the staff through sickness.

FIRST-AID QUALIFICATIONS

Eight members hold the First-Aid Certificate of the St. John Ambulance Association; the remaining seven members are at present taking a course of First-Aid, and the examinations are expected to be held in about a month's time.

1946

Notification of Births

(Public Health Act, 1936, Section 203).

The Act requires that all births occurring in the area of Ashton-under-Lyne (after the 28th week of pregnancy, whether alive or still) shall be sent to the Medical Officer of Health within 36 hours of the birth. All births occurring within the area are, therefore, notified to me whether the parent is a resident or a non-resident of Ashton-under-Lyne.

			Total Notified.	Ashton Residents
Number of Live Births...	Notified	Male ... 1193 Female ... 1060	2253	891
Number of Still Births ...	Notified	Male ... 32 Female ... 30	62	27

{	By Institutions:—	
	Lake Hospital	1595
	District Infirmary	412
	Nursing Homes	40
	Midwives	266
	Doctors	2
		—
		2315
		—

Notifications received by Department included above, but transferred elsewhere 1397

Total Notified Births allocated to Ashton-under Lyne 918

Percentage of Total Notified Births (Live and Still) received from	(a) Institutions & Nursing Homes	88.423%
	(b) Municipal Midwives ...	11.490%
	(c) Doctors ... ... ... ...	.087%

MIDWIVES PRACTISING IN THE AREA.

There were five midwives practising in the area during 1946, and all five were Municipal Midwives appointed by the Lancashire County Council.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Total Births i.e., Live and Still).	Puerperal Sepsis	1.09
	Other Puerperal Causes ...	Nil.
		1.09

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

This Clinic is held every Friday afternoon, one week at Enville House Centre and the following week at Richmond Street Centre.

Fifty-two sessions were held during 1946, and 148 expectant mothers made 756 attendances.

An increasing number of patients now enter Hospitals and Maternity Homes for their confinements. Many of these do not attend the Borough Ante-Natal Clinic, but prefer to make private arrangements with the family doctor and hospital.

POST-NATAL CLINICS.

This Clinic is held on the first Monday afternoon in the month at Enville House Centre. There were 5 sessions in the year, and the number of patients who attended was 27.

SUPPLY OF TRANSFUSION FLUIDS FOR MATERNITY CASES.

Arrangements were made with the Blood Transfusion Officer for the Supply of Transfusion Services in certain obstetric emergencies. Any doctor practising in the area requiring transfusion fluids for a maternity case has been advised to communicate with Dr. Thomas, the Obstetric Consultant appointed for the Borough. Dr. Thomas is also the Medical Superintendent of the Lake Hospital and has immediate access day and night to their blood bank.

Day Nurseries and Nursery Classes

There are two Day Nurseries and three Nursery Classes in the Borough, and the following Table shows the accommodation provided, hours of opening, etc.

Day Nurseries:

Location.	Date opened.	Numbers accommodated	Ages accepted.	Hours of opening.	Average daily attendance.
1. West End ... Council School	2/2/42	45	1 to 5 years	Mon to Fri. ... 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturdays 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.	41
2. St. John's School, Hurst	1/11/42	32	1 to 5 years	Mon to Fri. ... 6.30 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. Saturdays 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.	27

Nursery Classes:

1. Parochial School.	5/5/44	30	2 to 5 years	Mon. to Fri. ... 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturdays 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.	20
2. Trafalgar School.	3/7/43	30	2 to 5 years	Mon. to Fri. ... 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturdays 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.	20
3. Elgin Street School.	7/8/43	30	2 to 5 years	Mon. to Fri. ... 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturdays 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.	17

Total accommod't'n provided 167 Total average attendance ... 125

INFANT MORTALITY

The causes of the 41 deaths were as follows:—

Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Congenital Malformation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Suffocation (overlying)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Injury at Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
								—
								41
								—

Child Welfare Centres

The work at the Infant Welfare Centres was well maintained during 1946, and the following figures show the number of sessions held, the number of consultations and the weighings carried out at the Centres:—

Consultations held	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	115
Attendances at Consultations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1851
Number of Weighings of Children	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8208

Total number of attendees at all Centres during the year:

- (1) By Children under 1 year of age 7300
- (2) By Children between the ages of 1 and 5 ... 1585

Total number of children who attended at the Centres during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance, were:—

- (1) Under 1 year of age 510
- Pereentage of notified live births represented by this figure 57%
- (2) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years 70

Total number of children who attended at the Centres during the year and who, at the end of the year, were:—

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Under 1 year of age | 439 |
| (2) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years | 461 |

The fact that 57% of the total notified births are brought to the Welfare Centres is an indication that the work is of value and appreciated by the parents.

Provision of Dried Milk

During 1946, 11,195 packets of dried milk were sold at the Centres.

106 were sold at half-price and 627 were provided free, in accordance with the income scale adopted.

The net cost to the Council amounted to £24 18s. 2d.

Orthopædic Treatment

Number of individual pre-school children attending Clinic 119.

A classification of the conditions for which the above 119 children were treated is set out below:—

1. Rickets	2
2. Genu-Valgum (Knock-knee)	43
3. Genu-Varum (Bow-leg)	2
4. Torticollis (Wry-neck)	11
5. Infantile Paralysis	1
6. Spina Bifida	1
7. Flat Feet...	31
8. Postural Deformities	2
9. Curly Toes	6
10. Unclassified	20
	—

119

Artificial Sunlight Clinic

1946

Eighty-seven children made 1,580 attendances.

Adoption

The Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939, came into force on 1st June, 1943. A Register is now kept of the children adopted and they are regularly visited by the Health Visitors.

HOME HELPS.

Attempts were again made during the year to develop the Home Helps Scheme. There was difficulty in getting suitable women as Home Helps.

Arrangements have been made with the local office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service whereby, if there is a demand for a Home Help, the Exchange is to be notified by the Medical Officer of Health and an effort made to find a suitable person.

ATTEMPTS TO IMPROVE THE GENERAL STANDARD OF CLEANLINESS AND HABITS AND TO COMBAT INFESTATION BY HEAD-LICE.

In accordance with suggestions from the Ministry of Health, steps were taken to improve the general standard of cleanliness in children under 5 years.

The Nurses have made early morning and late evening visits to the homes. Lethane Hair Oil has been advised in the treatment of head vermin. Where necessary, action was taken under the Scabies Order, 1941.

The Health Visitors, who are also the School Nurses, now undertake the treatment of Scabies cases.

Child Life Protection

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

SECTIONS 206—220.

(a) Number of persons who were receiving children for reward at the end of the year ...	1
(b) Number of children on the register at the end of the year ...	1
(c) Number of Child Protection Visitors at the end of the year who were Health Visitors ...	6

Nursing Homes

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

SECTIONS 187—195.

The Lancashire County Council have delegated their powers under the above Act to the Ashton-under-Lyne Borough Council, who are the supervising authority for this purpose.

There is one Nursing Home registered in the Borough at:—
24, Villiers Street.

This Maternity Home was closed by the Council as a result of failure of the Matron to maintain the Institution up to the standards of staffing and accommodation required by the Authority.

The closure took effect on 31st May, 1946.

Housing Statistics

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

(i) By the Local Authority ...	15
(ii) By other Local Authorities ...	Nil.
(iii) By other bodies or persons ...	69*

* Temporary.

1.—Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1155
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	2354
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 to 1932	254
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	263
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	9
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	1146

2.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	987
---	-----

3.—Action under statutory powers during the year:—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil.
---	------

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—		
(a) By Owners	Nil.	
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	—	
 (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	54	
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices		
(a) By Owners	49	
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil.	
 (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	7	
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	—	
 (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—		
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	2	
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	—	
 4.—Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding:—		
(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	198	
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ...	212	
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	1340	

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year...	42
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	30
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	160

Water Supply

The Water Supply has been satisfactory in quantity and quality. There has been filtration of all supplies. Chlorination at the Brushes and Yeoman Hey Filterhouses and Ozonisation at Knott Hill.

During the year 4 chemical and 165 bacteriological samples were taken, and the results returned were considered very satisfactory.

Inspection and Supervision of Food MILK EXAMINATION.

Biological:	Methylene Blue	} 36 examinations.
	Phosphatase Test	

Out of the above 36 examinations, 25 were satisfactory and 11 unsatisfactory as regards the Phosphatase Test; 28 were satisfactory and 8 unsatisfactory as regards the Methylene Blue Test.

The Prevalence and Control over Infectious Diseases.

The cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year were as follows:—

DISEASE	Total Cases at all Ages	Total Deaths	HOSPITAL	
			Total Cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district
Chicken Pox	147	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	25	—	25	—
Erysipelas	12	—	1	—
Scarlet Fever	27	—	24	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	1	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	8	—	1	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	3	1	3	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	—	—	—
Acute Primary Pneumonia	54	30	—	—
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	4	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	57	22	—	—
Other forms of Tuberculosis	11	2	—	—
Measles	136	1	2	—
Whooping Cough	175	—	3	—
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—	—
Poliomyleitis	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—
Totals	663	56	60	—

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION

From 1st June, 1943, 11 beds, instead of 12, have been maintained at the Borough Hospital, Hyde.

The authorities of Oldham and Monsall have agreed to admit cases if there are beds available at the time.

The Ashton and District Smallpox Hospital at Hartshead is always held in readiness and any case of Smallpox could be admitted within an hour of notification.

DIPHTHERIA.

There were 25 cases of Diphtheria notified during the year.
There were no deaths.

Age distribution of the cases notified:—

Under 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
5 to 15 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Over 15 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
							—
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	25

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

		School.	Pre-School.	Total.
Children Immunised from 1934-1936	...	124	...	— ... 124
" "	in 1937 ...	219	...	46 ... 265
" "	.. 1938 ...	174	...	54 ... 228
" "	.. 1939 ...	33	...	23 ... 56
" "	.. 1940 ...	147	...	178 ... 325
" "	.. 1941 ...	1933	...	422 ... 2355
" "	.. 1942 ...	185	...	525 ... 710
" "	.. 1943 ...	492	...	680 ... 1172
" "	.. 1944 ...	615	...	626 ... 1241
" "	.. 1945 ...	103	...	411 ... 514
" "	.. 1946 ...	208	...	364 ... 572
Total Immunised at 31/12/46	...	4233	...	3329 ... 7562

Total Immunised under 5 years and between 5 and 15 at 31/12/46	...	4570	...	983	...	5553
Percentage Immunised at 31/12/46	...	77%	...	27%	...	58%

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Persons inoculated each year from 1934—1946

Age in years on
31st December of
the corresponding
year

	1934—36	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	Total inoculated aged five years on 31st December, 1946, 983
0												
1												
2												
3												
4												
5												
6												
7												
8												
9												
10												
11												
12												
13												
14												
15 and over												
Total each year	124	265	228	56	325	2355	710	1172	1241	514	573	Grand total 1934—1946, 7563

IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION.

Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1946.

Age at 31/12/46 i.e. Born in Year	Under 1 1946	1 1945	2 1944	3 1943	4 1942	5 to 9 1937—1941	10 to 14 1932—1936	Total under 15
Number Immunised	5	261	271	143	303	2530	2040	5553
Estimated mid-year population, 1946							5900	9520

SCARLET FEVER.

There were 27 cases (41 in 1945) notified. The disease was mild and there were no deaths.

PNEUMONIA.

There were 54 cases of Acute Primary Pneumonia notified (35 in 1945) and 4 cases (3 in 1945) of Acute Influenzal Pneumonia.

Influenza is not notifiable unless complicated with Pneumonia.

ASHTON AND DISTRICT SICK NURSING ASSOCIATION.

501 visits were made to 128 cases of Pneumonia by the Nurses from the Ashton and District Sick Nursing Association.

SUMMARY OF NOTIFIED CASES NURSED DURING 1946 (JANUARY 1st to DECEMBER 31st).

I am indebted to the Matron of the Ashton-under-Lyne District Nursing Association for the following figures of work which they have carried out during the year 1946.

	Cases.	Visits.
Lobar Pneumonia	50	201
Influenzal Pneumonia ...	16	58
Measles	12	100
Infantile Paralysis ...	—	—
Broncho-Pneumonia ...	50	128
		142 = 501

Children under five—

Chicken Pox	6	42
Whooping Cough	7	89
Infantile Diarrhoea ...	10 = 23 (inc. no.)	96 - 227
Circumcision (Minor Ops.)	56	146
Skin Diseases in Children	9 - 65 (inc. no.)	46 192
	—	—
	216	920
	—	—

Venereal Disease

Public Health (Venereal Diseases) Regulations, 1916.

The Lancashire County Council, who administer these regulations, have a treatment centre at the Ashton-under-Lyne District Infirmary.

The following shows the work carried out at the Venereal Diseases Clinic at the Ashton-under-Lyne District Infirmary during the year 1946:—

Patients under treatment at 1st January, 1946 ...	159
New cases admitted during 1946	250
Total attendances	3732
Patients receiving treatment at the end of 1946 ...	163
Pathological examinations for V.D. patients ...	1089
Patients reporting for continuation tests ...	54

Of the 250 new cases admitted during the year, 101 were Ashton residents. There is an increase in the incidence of Venereal Disease in the area due to war conditions; the position is being very closely watched. There were 96 cases found not to be V.D.

Penicillin is available for specified cases. Service cases are now reporting for continuation tests in fair number.

Scabies

The Scabies Clinic is held at the Disinfection Station, Town's Yard.

This building was originally constructed for the disinfection of Smallpox contacts, and is suitable for treating cases of Scabies. There is a Waiting Room, Bath Room, Treatment and Dressing Room and a Discharge Room. Clothes for stoving are passed through a revolving cupboard in the bathroom to the disinfecter next door.

Treatments by appointment are given on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday—women and children in the mornings and men in the afternoons. A following-up Clinic is held at the School Clinic every Wednesday morning, when cases are seen by the Medical Officer.

The Health Visitors—School Nurses treat the women and children and a male attendant treats the men.

The treatment given is a bath, followed by an application of Benzyl-Benzoate Emulsion. Each patient is told to bring a change of clean clothes. Typewritten instructions are given regarding clothing and other necessary precautions. The local doctors have been notified of these arrangements.

Fresh sources of infection come into the town from time to time. By careful following up of contacts to known cases, and by treating whole families the infection has been kept down. In difficult cases, and particularly when re-infection occurs, action has been taken under the Scabies Order, 1941—to ensure the medical examination and treatment of contacts.

In dealing with this infection the Nurses have paid many day and evening visits to the homes.

Individual No. of Patients treated

for Scabies in 1946:—

Attendances.

Pre-School Children	...	14	...	25
School Children	...	123	...	210
Adults	...	63	...	83
		—		—
Total	...	200	...	318
		—		—

Annual Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector for the Year 1946

DETAILS OF INSPECTIONS MADE AND WORK CARRIED OUT DURING 1946

Number of inspections (including housing)	4599
Number of nuisances abated	2978
Number of visits to common lodging-houses, furnished rooms and dwelling-vans	67
Number of visits to slaughter-houses	185
Number of visits to Cowsheds and Dairies	67
Number of visits to Bakehouses	27
Number of visits to food stores and food preparing premises	295
Number of visits to Fish Friers	21
Number of visits to Factories and Workshops	74
Number of visits to Offensive Trade premises	5
Number of visits <i>re</i> rat infestations	7003
Number of samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act	24

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health. Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted (4)
Factories with Mechanical Power... ...	115	6	—
Factories without Mechanical Power ...	5	—	—
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)... ...	—	—	—
Total	120	6	—

2. DEFECTS FOUND

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of Cleanliness (S. 1) ...	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S. 3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S. 4)...	3	3	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S. 6) ...	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7) { Insufficient ...	2	2	—	—
	Unsuitable or	—	—	—
	Defective ...	13	13	—
	Not Separate for Sexes ...	—	—	—
Other Offences	2	2	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937)	—	—	—	—
Total	20	20	—	—

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

During the year twenty-four samples of Milk were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst.

Meat Inspection

TABLE No. 2

**Carcases with all organs condemned as totally unfit
for human consumption.**

Animals.		Tuberculosis.	Accidents.	Diseases.	Inflammatory	Other	Conditions.
Cows	...	72	...	—	...	3	...
Bulls	...	1	...	—	...	—	...
Bullocks	...	1	...	—	...	—	...
Heifers	...	2	...	—	...	—	...
Calves	...	—	...	1	...	2	...
Sheep	...	—	...	8	...	5	...
Pigs	....	2	...	—	...	—	...

Carcases partially condemned as unfit for human consumption.

Animals.		Tuberculosis.	Accidents.	Diseases.	Inflammatory	Other	Conditions.
Cows	...	61	...	4	...	6	...
Bulls	...	—	...	—	...	1	...
Bullocks	...	4	...	—	...	—	...
Heifers	...	3	...	—	...	—	...
Calves	...	—	...	—	...	—	...
Sheep	...	—	...	—	...	7	...
Pigs	...	—	...	1	...	—	...

TABLE No. 3

Various Organs Condemned as Unfit for Human Consumption.

	Heads	Tongues	Lungs	Livers	Stomachs	Hearts	Spleens	Mesenteries	Intestines	Udders	Kidneys	Diaphragms	Tails
--	-------	---------	-------	--------	----------	--------	---------	-------------	------------	--------	---------	------------	-------

Tuberculosis:

Bovines	...	327	327	799	274	110	114	346	231	231	92	125	383	—
Pigs	...	25	25	14	11	—	2	—	3	3	—	—	—	—

Inflammatory Diseases:

Bovines	...	1	1	260	341	8	15	90	12	12	27	52	38	—
Pigs	...	—	—	9	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Sheep	...	—	—	6	35	1	3	3	1	1	—	2	—	—

Parasitic Diseases:

Bovines	...	1	1	73	436	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—
Pigs	...	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sheep	...	—	—	1	636	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

Other Diseases:

Bovines	...	—	—	—	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pigs	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The following table gives some idea of the work involved in this particular branch of my department:

No. of visits to slaughter-houses during 1946 ... 185

No. of visits to food premises and markets ... 323

No. of carcases inspected:—

Cattle and Calves 3553

Sheep and Lambs 9246

Pigs 268

Total 13067

The total weight of meat and offals destroyed during the year as diseased, unsound and unfit for the food of man was 97,797 lbs. or 43 tons 13 cwts. 0 qr. 21 lbs.

